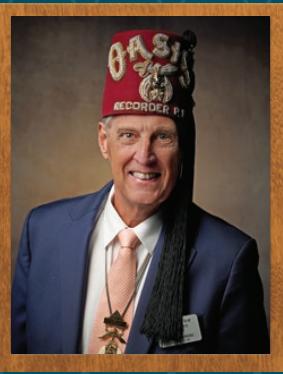


DESERT DUST

A PUBLICATION OF OASIS SHRINERS | CHARLOTTE, NC

February 2026 | Volume 91 | Number 2



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2026 Installation Ceremony

Spring Ceremonial Information | The Making of a Quilt

Oasis Hospital Fundraising Totals | *and more!*



From the Potentate



Nobles and Ladies,

As I look around, I find myself asking, where did January 2026 go? It seems like just yesterday Lady Betty and I were being honored

by you at the Oasis 131st Installation of Officers—and truly, what an honor it was. We hope you enjoy the photos and coverage of that special event in this issue.



Here at Oasis, we have been busy working for you—the Nobility—and for the children of Shriners Hospitals.

Oasis currently has a quilt drawing underway that will benefit our Fraternal Sunshine Fund. This beautiful quilt was designed and handmade by Suzanne Roberts, and you will find an article in this issue featuring Suzanne and her work. Thank you Lady Suzanne for your labor of love and for creating such a beautiful quilt.

We also have an Oasis candy sale underway. This project will not only benefit Oasis, but also our hard-working clubs and units.

I would like to thank all the presenters, officers, and Nobility who attended the 2026 Annual Club and Unit Officers Orientation on January 31, 2026. It is essential that the leadership of our clubs and units come together to discuss changes and updates involving Shriners International, IRS requirements, insurance, and other important matters.

February brings Valentine's Day—a time to focus on celebrating love, romance, and affection. Nobles and Ladies, I encourage you to make special time to celebrate those you love and to let them know just how much they mean to you.



Lady Betty and I will be joining many Nobles, Ladies, and family members from Oasis and other Shrine Centers on our Caribbean cruise from February 21 through March 1. We look forward to sharing those experiences with you next month. Speaking of next month, we will also be attending the Shriners Children's Greenville Shriners Days. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit our closest Shriners healthcare facility and to see firsthand the life-changing miracles provided for the children we serve.

As our journey continues, I often reflect on our Nobility—from our newest Shriners to those who have been part of this great fraternity for decades. I think about those who are still working for our fraternity and serving our Creator by serving others. I also reflect on those who have laid down the working tools of life and have been called home by the Black Camel. Many of them are dear to my heart, and remembering their dedication inspires me to continue serving as they would be doing today if they were still here with us.

So until next month, Lady Betty and I wish you the very best as we continue this journey together.

Tim Farris, Potentate



See pages 12-13 for more Installation photos!

From the Recorder



Hello Everyone,

I hope this note finds you well. This month I will deviate from my articles focusing on our hospital kids and

cover some Oasis business. I will return next month to focus on our all-important Shriner's Children patient stories.

There appears to be some misunderstanding about the actual timetable for paying annual dues (or maybe old habits are just hard to break).

Oasis dues are \$100/year. Added to that number is a Shriners International assessment of \$50/year, and a \$5.00/year hospital assessment, for a grand total of \$155/year. Oasis dues are some of the lowest compared with the other Carolina temples. Let's look at the timeline and try to clear up some common misunderstandings.

Shriners International sent out the 1st email notice for 2026 dues in September of 2025. To not be considered late, 2026 dues needed to be paid by 12/31/25. Beginning 1/1/26, nobles who have not paid their 2026 dues will not be allowed into Oasis functions where dues cards are being reviewed, since your dues help pay for all Oasis functions (i.e. ceremonials, club/unit functions, etc.) **Also, a common overlooked item is that no noble can serve as a club or unit officer in 2026 if they have not paid their 2026 dues by 12/31/25 since nobles in leadership positions are expected to conform to Oasis policies.**

You would have received your 1st dues notice for 2026 in the mail during the timeframe of September-October 2025. Also in October 2025, nobles would have

received a postcard warning that they will be suspended on 12/31/25 if their 2025 dues have not been paid.

In December 2025, nobles received a reminder notice to pay their 2026 dues by 12/31/25 to not be considered "late". Another reminder email was sent in January 2026.

In January 2026, those nobles who let their membership lapse due to nonpayment of 2025 dues, received a "Come Back" postcard. During February 2026, those nobles who still have not paid their 2026 dues will receive a final hardcopy dues notice sent by Shriners International.

Shriners International sends out these late-dues notices, but Oasis is billed for the costs. I believe everyone can see how much expense Oasis incurs for nobles who haven't paid their 2026 dues by 12/31/25.

On a side note, Shriners International will issue new membership cards to nobles once their 2026 dues have been paid. These are permanent cards, are black in color, and show no date. Nobles should present these cards or show an electronic dues card via a phone app entitled "My FezCard Viewer", to gain access to Oasis events.

I hope this explanation clarifies the annual dues timeline. Questions should be directed to Sherrie or to me by calling Oasis at 704-549-9600 and choosing the appropriate area from the menu.

Things continue to go well here at Oasis, and we would love to have your stop by and visit *your* temple. Take care until next month, and remember, the work you do for our fraternity and philanthropy is sincerely *appreciated and essential* to our medical facilities and all our Shriners Children's programs that they serve.

Gary Taylor, Recorder

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DESERT DUST

Illustrious Sir Tim Farris - Potentate

604 Doug Mayes Place,
Charlotte, NC 28262
704-549-9600
oasisshriners.org

2026 OASIS DIVAN

Chief Rabban - Donnie Wrenn
Assistant Rabban - Scottie Cox
High Priest & Prophet - John Cable
Oriental Guide - Larry Sanderson
Treasurer - Bill DePriest
Recorder - Gary Taylor, PP
1st Ceremonial Master - Tom Bridges
2nd Ceremonial Master - Jack Wallace
Director - Rick Garver
Marshal - Larry Payne
Captain of the Guard - Nick Wieder
Outer Guard - Brandon Penley
Chaplain - John Stanley, PP

Editorial:

DesertDust@oasisshriners.org

2025 Oasis Hospital Fundraising Totals



Appalachian SC	\$10,696.65	Provost Guard	\$1,000.00
Ashe SC	\$8,973.12	Ragtops	\$700.00
Avery SC	\$33,750.00	Randolph SC	\$25,765.00
Blue Ridge SC	\$250.00	Red Fez SC	\$9,200.00
BrewMasters SC	\$2,000.00	Robbinsville SC	\$55,457.69
Brushy Mountain SC	\$12,000.00	Rowan County SC	\$11,300.00
Cabarrus SC	\$6,221.67	Sandhills SC	\$6,519.80
Carolina Drifters	\$1,400.00	Sand T's	\$12,500.00
Catawba SC	\$27,822.68	Smoky Mountain SC	\$11,625.69
Cherryville SC	\$5,468.85	Stanly County SC	\$50,200.00
Crowders Mountain SC	\$29,261.50	Statesville SC	\$7,625.00
Drum & Bugle Corps	\$5,625.00	Surry County	\$1,800.00
Dune Cats	\$7,937.06	Surry Mini Truckers	\$100.00
East Burke SC	\$2,059.45	Thermal Belt	\$10,573.28
Elkin-Jonesville SC	\$11,144.29	Tri County	\$2,750.00
Foothills SC	\$78,844.04	Union County	\$1,238.72
Gaston SC	\$45,903.91	Wagoneers	\$15,501.72
Gator Patrol	\$3,020.00	Western NC SC	\$52,910.00
Greensboro SC	\$42,636.98	White Plains SC	\$79,000.00
Hendersonville SC	\$23,189.58	Winston Salem SC	\$3,025.00
High Point SC	\$2,363.75	Oasis General Donations*	\$122,500.00
Hillbilly	\$6,750.00		
Kart Attacks	\$820.00		
Keystone Kops	\$14,636.58		
Lake Norman SC	\$28,997.28		
Lake Wylie Classic	\$209,258.00		
Lexington SC	\$32,629.00		
Lincoln County SC	\$23,200.00		
Mecklenburg County SC	\$1,226.00		
Metrolina SC	\$15,646.00		
Moore County SC	\$17,291.00		
Mountain Buggies	\$1,706.00		
Mountaineer SC	\$22,992.00		
Mt. Mitchell SC	\$7,000.00		
Nascarts	\$1,000.00		
New River SC	\$6,000.00		
Oasis Band	\$5,183.51		
Oasis Clowns	\$1,000.00		
Oasis Mountain Buggies	\$9,987.96		
Oasis Pickers	\$8,146.00		
Oriental Band	\$8,697.86		
Past Masters	\$100.00		
Patrol	\$9,120.00		
Piedmont Pistons	\$2,000.00		
Piedmont SC	\$40,279.75		
Pisgah SC	\$1,240.00		

TOTAL: \$1,316,767.37

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White Plains Shrine Club

**1ST PLACE UNIT,
CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING**

Wagoneers

**1ST PLACE ,
PLAQUE SALES & PAPER DRIVE
Mountain Buggies**

Note: Total does not include any donations made directly to the hospital (money that did not come through Oasis).

**Donations made to Oasis that were unable to be directly linked to any specific club or unit.*

The Making of a Quilt

Submitted by Suzanne Roberts

My father was a mason, a member of Scottish Rite, a Shriner, and a member of the Order of The Eastern Star. As a child I was a patient at Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, Texas where I had a very positive experience, and it pleased me that children are still receiving help with their medical issues. Starting my sixth-grade year of elementary school, I was tested and started special classes at the hospital for my dyslexia. It was during our weekly trips to the hospital for my classes that I became interested in understanding more about the fraternity that my father, mother, and other family members belonged to.



When I turned 18 I could not wait to become a member of the Order of The Eastern Star. Years later after being taught to quilt by my grandmothers, aunts, and parents, I was asked to continue that service by making quilts for the Shriners. The first two quilts my dad designed, and my mom and I put them together, sewed and tied them. Both my parents were in poor health, but their work still amazed me. My dad Noble Bob K. Roberts passed

in 2020, and my mom Anita passed in 2022.

In January 2025 I had the pleasure of visiting with Illustrious Sir Tim Farris. He asked if I would consider making a quilt for 2026 in support of the Oasis Sunshine Fund. He asked for a king size quilt, and I knew immediately what colors - everyone knows the colors of a fez! I was given total freedom with my design, so I chose a string quilt pattern.

This allowed me to use the star design that my family members used most often, but in a different pattern that made the star in the center of the quilt stand out. If you look closely, each colored square of the quilt is unique. Each square is made by cutting and measuring each individual rectangular strip of fabric, then sewing rectangular strips of fabric together onto a square piece of interfacing. I used black fabric to strip between the rows of blocks to make the colored fabric stand out. I was able to use most of the same fabric from the first two quilts - you just can't change a good thing!



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CONTACT:

Scott McCorkle,
Steve Lee, Rusty Hopkins

704-708-8000

Monthly Roadrunner Highlights

For December, there were a total of 11 Roadrunner trips consisting of 5,008 miles! Congratulations to the following drivers who had the highest number of trips and/or most miles driven in their region in December:

Eric Morabito (Catawba) 1 trip, 1,189 miles



Jim Scarborough (Charlotte) 1 trip, 1,189 miles

Danny Howell (Charlotte) 3 trips, 482 miles

Michael Ogas (Mountain/Avery) 1 trip, 177 miles

Rick Patton (Mountain/Avery) 1 trip, 177 miles

Tom Erickson (Triad) 4 trips, 2,567 miles

Neil Johnson (Triad) 4 trips, 2,567 miles



 **SASA SPRING MEETING**

Date: March 26-29, 2026

Location: Lexington, KY

Hotel: The Campbell House Lexington
1375 S Broadway, Lexington, KY 40504
859-255-4281

REGISTRATION:

<https://southatlanticsa.com/event/2026springregistration>

<https://southatlanticsa.com/spring>

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Help support: **Oasis Shriners** Start Date: **1/31/26** End Date: **4/1/26**

Proceeds are for the benefit of Oasis Shriners activities.
Payments are not deductible as charitable contributions.

2026 Schedule of Events

A 2026 dues card is required for admission to all Oasis events.

FEBRUARY

Feb 19 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)
 Feb 21-Mar 1 Potentate's Cruise (Southern Caribbean)

MARCH

Mar 6-7 Greenville Hospital Days (Greenville, SC)
 Mar 19 Oasis Divan Meeting **Stated**
 (Oasis Center)
 Mar 26-29 SASA Spring Meeting (Lexington, KY)

APRIL

Apr 16 Oasis Divan Meeting (Spindale, NC)
 Apr 18 McDowell County **Ceremonial**
 (Marion, NC)

MAY

May 1-3 Paper Giveaway (Everywhere!)
 May 21 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)

JUNE

Jun 12-14 Spring **Ceremonial** (Lake Junaluska, NC)
 Jun 20 MHCO Gala, Black Tie (Oasis Center)
 Jun 27 Oasis Membership Meeting **Stated**
 (Rowan County Shrine Club)
 Jun 27 250th USA Birthday Bash
 (Rowan County Shrine Club)

JULY

Jul 12-16 Imperial Session (Tampa, FL)
 July 23 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)

Membership Statistics

JANUARY 2026

	MTD	YTD
Creations	0	0
Affiliations	0	0
Restorations	1	1
Reversals	0	0
Total Additions	YTD - 1	



AUGUST

Aug 14-16 3 Chapter Joint Black Tie **Ceremonial**
 (Winston-Salem, NC)
 Aug 14 Oasis Divan Meeting **Stated**
 (Winston-Salem, NC)
 Aug 15 Oasis Divan & Ladies' Succession
 Planning Meeting (Winston-Salem, NC)
 Aug 22 Water Buffalo Degree (Oasis Center)

SEPTEMBER

Sep 10 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)
 Sep 18-20 SASA Fall Festival (Myrtle Beach, SC)
 Sep 25-26 Grand Lodge Annual Communication
 (Winston-Salem, NC)

OCTOBER

Oct 9-10 153rd Masonic Homecoming Parade
 (Oxford, NC)
 Oct 14 The Shriners Circus (Greensboro, NC)
 Oct 16-17 The Shriners Circus (Concord, NC)
 Oct 15 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)
 TBD 7th Annual Golf Tournament (TBD)

NOVEMBER

Nov 6 Club & Unit Appreciation Night
 (Oasis Center)
 Nov 6-8 Oasis Fall **Ceremonial** (Oasis Center)
 Nov 19 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)

DECEMBER

Dec 5 Installation of the Grand Master of
 Masons (TBD)
 Dec 5 Oasis Membership Meeting **Stated** &
 Election of Officers (Oasis Center)
 Dec 6 Potentate's Civic Parade (Gastonia, NC)
 Dec 12 Lincoln **Ceremonial** (Lincoln County SC)
 Dec 12 Cat Square Civic Parade (Cat Square, NC)
 Dec 17 Oasis Divan Meeting (Oasis Center)

JANUARY 2027

Jan 9 Installation of 132nd Potentate of
 Oasis Shriners & the Oasis Divan
 (Oasis Center)

Lady Betty's Angel Kids

Meet Joselyn

Holding the violin donated by the Oasis Pickers to her chin under the bright fluorescent lights of the Rehabilitation Department at Shriners Children's Greenville, 13-year-old Joselyn runs her bow across the instrument's strings for the first time in two years. She follows the notes played by her rehabilitation aide Cheyenne Pfeiffer, who is also a violinist. Meanwhile, Gemsop, the father of the talented girl, looks on with great pride – and overwhelming emotion.

Tears well up in his eyes as he remembers the music before the accident.

"My stepson went to pick Joselyn up from school on his motorcycle," Gemsop said. "She was taking off her coat as they drove along, with one arm out but the other still in its sleeve. The sleeve somehow entangled in the motorcycle's wheel, instantly taking her arm." And with it, her ability to play the instrument she adored.

Joselyn loved music from a very young age and was a student at the conservatory in her hometown of Pinas, Ecuador. She spent hours practicing and enjoyed performing often at events with other gifted musicians from the school. After the accident, she was fitted locally with a prosthetic arm; however, without a hand that possessed the functionality to hold a bow, it was impossible for her to play.

Then came Shriners Children's Greenville.

"A friend told me about Shriners Children's and thought they could help," Gemsop said.

The timing was perfect. Joselyn had already outgrown her existing prosthesis, and the hospital's Pediatric Orthopedic and Prosthetics (POPS) department knew they could offer more than just a replacement.

"We've made prostheses for kids playing just about every sport you can think of and we've also made ones for patients who play the guitar," said Nate Carter, POPS certified orthotist. "But this was our first time creating one for the violin."



As a violinist, Pfeiffer had accepted the donation of the violin from the Oasis Pickers – the unit comes to the hospital to play music for and with the patients. She offered input to Carter and his team, while Joselyn's occupational therapist (Alex Reynolds) provided additional guidance on creation of a special attachment that would make holding a bow at just the right angle possible.

"It was a team effort," said Reynolds. "It was really important to her to be able to play again, so it was really important to us to work together and figure out how to make that happen."

The morning that Joselyn receives her new device, Gemsop says he is very thankful and knows the staff's efforts are going to make a positive and lasting impact on Joselyn's life. The abundance of gratitude can not only be heard in his words but also seen in the glow of his face – softly smiling as he watches his daughter tentatively play for the first time since she was 11.

The music in their lives has returned.



REMINDER:

You can view the digital version of the Desert Dust online!

oasisshriners.org



A Note from the Desert Dust:

All ads & articles for the March edition of the *Desert Dust* must be submitted to DesertDust@oasisshriners.org by February 10.



Chaplain's Corner

Every Day, Christmas?

Have you heard that we should make every day Christmas day? A good thought. And we hope your Christmas has been most merry. In his book *Maybe (Maybe Not)*, Robert Fulghum says that it was in a

doctor's office waiting room that he was reminded, even surprised of the excitement of Christmas.

The author says that on a bleak February day he went to the doctor. As he sat in the waiting room, he noticed an attractive elderly couple waiting too. The woman wore holly berries and poinsettia leaves in her hair. The man leaned toward Fulghum, smiled and announced, "Merry Christmas!"

Fulghum remembered it was NOT Christmas, it was February.

The receptionist asked the man him to come on back for his appointment. After the elderly gentleman left, his wife explained his strange behavior. The woman said that the man had a little dementia going on. She said she noticed it one March morning.

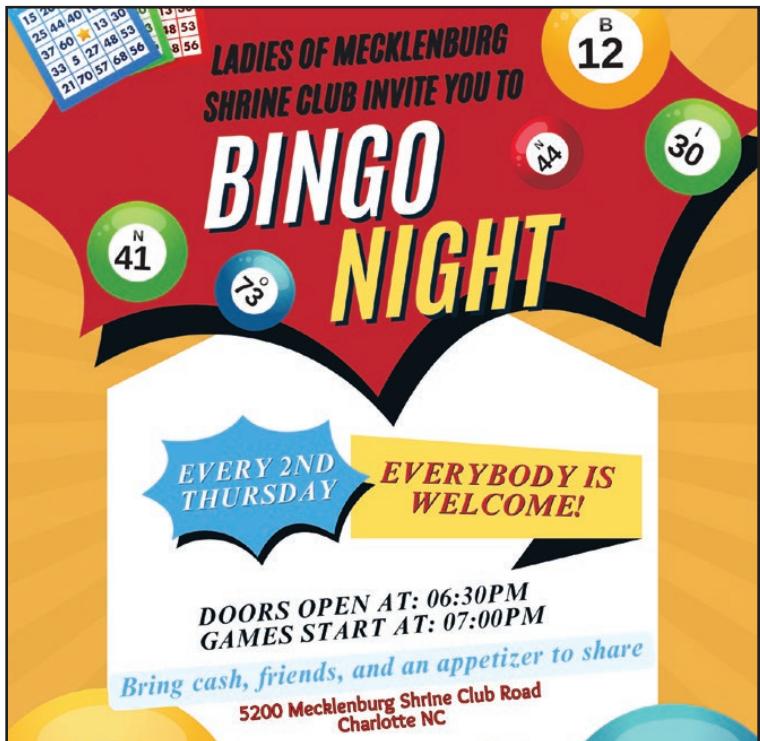
Quite unexpectedly, he came down the stairs announcing that he had forgotten it was Christmas. He urged his wife to help him put up decorations and wrap gifts. The bewildered woman called up their adult daughters, and the whole family got together and celebrated Christmas that day. The wife said that it was actually a warm, enjoyable experience. Now every few months, the woman explained, her husband will suddenly announce that it is Christmas and the family will gather.

The daughters think of these celebrations as Christmas day; their time to make their dad happy. The woman remarked, "It's kind of refreshing to have Christmas come as a surprise."

In one of his devotion books, Max Lucado says that indeed we can have Christmas EVERY day. Lucado reminds us of the Psalm 9: "Sing praises to the Lord. Tell the nations what he has done." Every day when we sing praises to the Lord, we have gifts. Not toys or books, but God himself.

John Stanley, Chaplain

John Stanley is Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of NC and Chaplain of Oasis. He is also Chaplain of South Atlantic Shriners. He is active in Laurinburg Presbyterian. He served as Imperial Chaplain when Imperial Sir Al Madsen was Imperial Potentate, and is retired as Minister—Visitation, First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia. John can be reached at: jhstanley1965@gmail.com.



McDowell County CEREMONIAL

April 18, 2026

Courtyard at Little Acres
200 Little Acres Dr Drive,
Marion, NC 28752



This is a One Day Ceremony geared to those candidates who may be rushed for time, but we at Oasis strongly encourage those who go through this ceremony to go to a full Ceremonial to experience the difference.

AGENDA

- 9:00 am Registration of Candidates
- 10:00 am Welcome all in attendance along with New Candidates
- 10:30 am Ceremony followed by lunch
- 12:30 pm Dismissal

A 2026 dues card is required for admission.

Download The Petition:

Oasisshriners.org/images/forms/membership/petition-for-initiation-and-membership.pdf



UNION COUNTY FISH FRY



Attending the Union County fish fry was noble John Schwab (pictured above). John was one of the original Dune Cats. He was brought to the event by his family.



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Join the Oasis Hospitality Team.



We are looking for individuals like yourself to join our team.

Husbands and wives are encouraged.

To learn more, please contact Dennis Grigg at (828) 781-0062.

We look forward to hearing from you.

SHRINE TRAILER Travels for You

Did you know the Shrine hospital trailer is available for your public Shriners Children's hospitals fund raising or awareness events? Noble Sam Moody has generously agreed to volunteer his time and energy to transport the hospital trailer to any location within the Oasis region in an effort to spread the word about our wonderful hospitals. The trailer unfortunately cannot be used for fraternal (non-hospital) fundraising.



Noble Sam is ready and willing to bring the trailer to your location, with advance notice. 980-722-7951
sambo447@aol.com



INSTALLATION NIGHT



Visit <https://www.shrinephotos.com/2026-Oasis-Shriners/2026-Installation> to view more photos!





Shriners Children's™

Shriners Days at Greenville Hospital

Friday, March 6 | 6 pm to 8 pm

Saturday, March 7 | 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

**950 West Faris Road,
Greenville, SC 29605**

Attire: Business Casual

Shriners Days is an annual event inviting all temples from Shriners Children's Greenville's six service states for an evening reception of fellowship with other Shriners followed by a morning presentation/tour. It is an opportunity to learn the latest about the award-winning hospital as well as receive thanks for support of Shriners Children's Greenville - which will celebrate 100 years in 2027.



Special Recognition for Two Oasis Roadrunners

A milestone was reached in 2025 by two of our Oasis Roadrunners. Shriners Children's Greenville reported that George Stoklas (pictured left) has surpassed 100 trips to Greenville and Charles Stubbs (pictured right) has made over 150 trips. Congratulations to George and Charles and a big thank you to ALL our Roadrunners for a busy year of driving.



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Woodford Reserve Double Oaked Single Barrel - Oasis Private Selection



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*This is NOT a fundraiser, neither fraternal nor charitable.
This is for nostalgia purposes only. Barrel delivery expected in early Spring 2026
For logistical questions, contact Noble Tom Bridges at 828-439-1700*



Potentates from Omar, Kerbela, Hejaz, Alhambra, Amran, Oasis, Jamil & Sudan at the Amran Potentate installation in Raleigh.

UPCOMING CLUB AND UNIT EVENTS

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY
Mecklenburg Shrine Club
Bingo Night
See ad on page 10

FEBRUARY 27-28
Lincoln County Shrine Club
BBQ Sale
See ad on page 16

APRIL 25
Crowders Mountain Shrine Club
Shrine Rodeo
See ad on page 18

MAY 2
Mecklenburg Shrine Club
Derby Party
See ad on page 4

Spring CEREMONIAL

SAVE
THE
DATE!

June 12-14

Lake Junaluska, NC



Reservations for lodging are available at the group rate for stays from June 12 - June 14. This special rate is only available for booking until May 21, 2026. Lodging reservations require a deposit of the first night's room cost at the time of booking. Check-in time is 4pm, check out is 11am.

CLICK LINK OR SCAN QR CODE

REGISTER FOR THE CEREMONIAL

[OasisSpring2026.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/oasispring2026.eventbrite.com)



CLICK LINK OR SCAN QR CODE

REGISTER FOR LODGING

www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1593&skipfirstpage=true&page=201596

CLICK LINK OR SCAN QR CODE

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Oasisshriners.org/images/forms/membership/petition-for-initiation-and-membership.pdf



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**CONTACT BUBBA TURNER
FOR MORE INFORMATION
336-684-2990**



The Blue Ridge Shrine Club would like to thank everyone who helped with our ham sale this past year.

LINCOLN COUNTY SHRINE CLUB

★ **2026 ANNUAL** ★

BBQ SALE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

BUSINESS DELIVERIES

PLACE ORDERS:

Aaron Whitener: (704) 671-8891

Bobby Willis: (704) 472-6659

Gene Sain: (980) 241-1189

John Leatherman: (704) 530-5677

★
Five plate
minimum
★

**\$12
PER
PLATE!**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

DRIVE THRU PICK-UP

11 AM - 5 PM

1470 Cat Square Road, Vale, NC



BBQ PLATE INCLUDES: Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies, Roll & Dessert

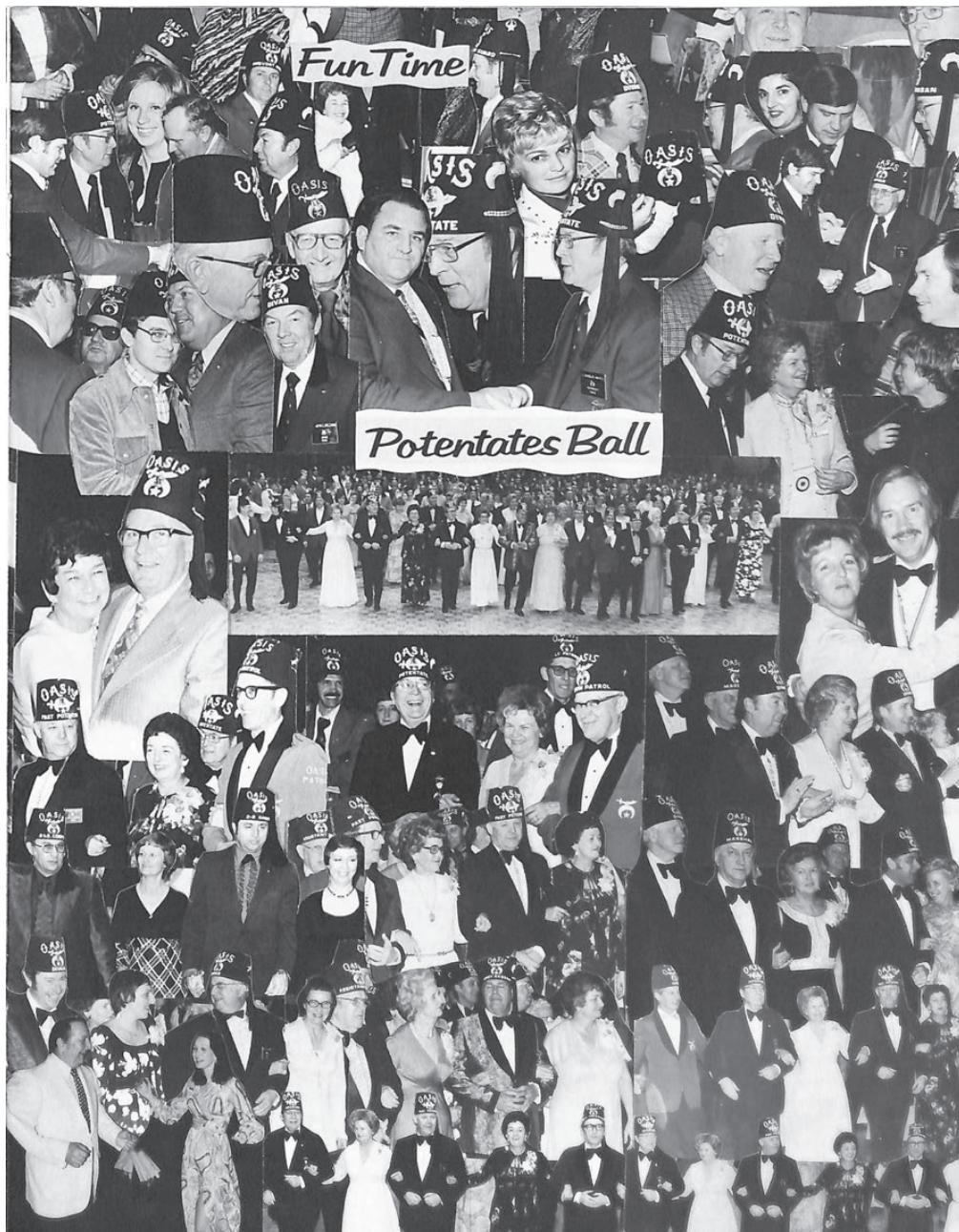
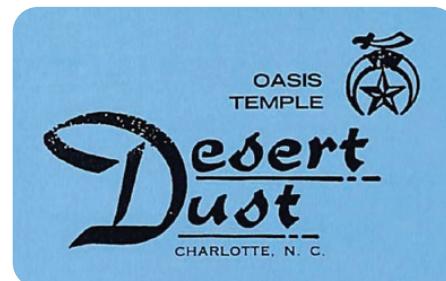
**COME
SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
SHRINERS!**



A LOOK BACK

Our Oasis history is long and rich. Each month we will celebrate our past by running a new feature called A Look Back. Some months the feature may be a single photo, while other months it might be a full article. If you have photos you'd like to be considered for this feature, please email them to DesertDust@oasisshriners.org. Include a write up about the photo. (Example: "This is Noble John Doe in his clown outfit in 1935 at the Hickory Thanksgiving Day parade.")

Items between 1895 and 1970 are highly desirable. We hope you enjoy these looks back in time!



Masonic Home for Children
Growing Hearts, Brighter Futures



scan to donate

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600 College St
Oxford, NC
27565

www.mhc-oxford.org



Shriners
Children's™

Leaders in Research

Shriners Children's strives to transform children's lives by providing exceptional health care through high-quality, innovative research in a patient and family centered environment.

We are committed to the pursuit of seminal, cutting edge discoveries that result in new knowledge and improve the therapeutic treatment, quality of care and provided outcomes to our patients and their families. Today's research is tomorrow's patient care.



ORTHOPAEDICS • BURN CARE
CLEFT LIP AND PALATE
SPINAL CORD INJURY

Shriners Children's Greenville Recognized at the Press Ganey Awards

Article courtesy of www.facebook.com/ShrinersGreenville.

We are proud to share that Shriners Children's Greenville was recognized in multiple categories in the prestigious 2025 Press Ganey Awards.

Press Ganey is a nationally renowned organization recognizing excellence in healthcare quality, safety and patient experience. Most notably, Shriners Children's Greenville was the only pediatric hospital in the country to be honored with the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators Award for Outstanding Nursing Quality.

Thank you to the families who took the time to share their feedback through the Press Ganey surveys – and to the Shriners Children's Greenville team for continuing to deliver world-class care.



Calling All Cycling Enthusiasts

To celebrate the semiquincentennial anniversary of the United States, we would like to plan a bicycle event to benefit Shriners Children's, and we need your help.

Do you have experience with: event planning, logistics, promotions, sponsorship or just like to ride?

To get involved contact Noble Ken Goodrich at labfannc@gmail.com or call (802) 310-6688 to discuss.



To the Nobility of Oasis Shriners: In compliance with Item 6 of the "Fundraising Activities" information contained within General Order No. 1, Series of 2024-2025, per the Office of the Imperial Potentate, the following is hereby printed in the temple publication which is annually required. Take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Strict attention must be given to all fundraising activities, including but not limited to circuses, gaming, bingo and raffles, to make certain that such activities are authorized and comply with the law of the land. In addition, because it is natural to associate the fez with Shriners Hospitals for Children it is essential that a contributor is not led to believe that his money will be used for the Hospitals when all or a portion thereof will be used otherwise. Advertising for all fundraisers must clearly indicate the entity for whom the funds are being raised. The integrity of our charity and of our fraternity must remain above reproach.

Your specific attention is called to the following fraternal and charitable bylaws:

§ 335.3 Use of Name "Shriners Hospitals For Children." The use of the name "Shriners Hospitals for Children" or reference to the Hospitals in connection with any fundraising activity by a temple or Noble without the written consent of the Imperial Potentate and the chairman of the board of trustees of the Hospitals is prohibited.

§ 503.11 Commercial Use of Name. The use of the name "Shriners Hospitals for Children" or reference to the hospitals in connection with any commercial product or business enterprise is prohibited unless the written consent of the boards of directors and trustees has been first obtained.

Now, therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Fundraising for Fraternal Purposes:

(a) No Noble (in his capacity as a Shriner), club, unit, organization of Nobles or affiliated or appendant corporations, shall engage in any fundraising activity without the express written consent of the Potentate of the temple having jurisdiction thereof.

(b) There can be no representation, express or implied, that the proceeds will be for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children.

(c) The temple Potentate shall carefully examine all phases of the advertising, promotion and solicitation to determine that it complies with §335.3 and §503.11 of the fraternal and charitable bylaws and that there is no representation, expressed or implied, that would lead a reasonably prudent person to believe that the proceeds will be for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children. If the Potentate is in doubt, he must receive the opinion of the Imperial Potentate who, after consultation with the Director of Temple Accounting, shall make the final determination.

(d) The temple Potentate must approve the terms and provisions of any contract for a fundraising activity after receiving the advice of the temple attorney, and, additionally, as may be required by the temple bylaws.

(e) A copy of the temple Potentate's written consent shall be emailed to the Executive Vice President, Shriners International at officeoftheexecutive@shrinernet.org. Further, such written material pertaining to the fundraising activity, as requested by the Executive Vice President, Shriners International, shall be promptly mailed to him.

2. Fundraising for Charitable Purposes:

(a) No Noble (in his capacity as a Shriner), club, unit, organization of Nobles or affiliated or appendant corporations shall engage in any charitable fundraising activity other than for

Shriners Hospitals for Children. A request to fundraise for Shriners Hospitals for Children is now initiated through a module in WebFez. The temple recorder and/or designated staff are required to take online training to gain access to the module. See updated Charitable Fundraising – Approval and Reporting on page 44 of this publication. Permission therefor must be first obtained in writing or via electronic authorization from the temple Potentate. The temple Potentate must then obtain written permission from the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees. This request for written permission shall be sent to events@shrinernet.org. No charitable fundraising activity shall be held in the jurisdiction of another temple without the written permission of the Potentate of that temple.

(i) A joint charitable fundraising activity with another 501(c)(3) charity may be authorized, provided that a minimum of 50% of the net proceeds are for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children, and the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees determine, on a case by case basis, that it is in the best interest of Shriners Hospitals for Children and they grant their written permission for the activity.

(ii.) A charitable fundraising activity conducted by a temple located outside of the U.S.A. and Canada may be authorized for other charities, provided that the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees determine, on a case by case basis, that it is in the best interest of Shriners Hospitals for Children and they grant their written permission for the activity.

(iii.) No charitable funds from a charitable fundraising event may be distributed to charities other than Shriners Hospitals for Children if the written fundraising request and written permission do not specifically include that other charity.

(b) All Shrine temples and their units, Shrine clubs, Shrine Associations and their units and Imperial Sessions of Shriners International are prohibited from engaging telemarketing firms and direct mail firms to assist with fundraising for Shriners Hospitals for Children. No new contracts are permitted without first obtaining written permission from the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees.

(c) 100% of net proceeds (as defined in the Charitable Fundraising—Approval And Reporting provisions of this General Order) from charitable fundraising must be given to Shriners Hospitals for Children except for such portion thereof as may be permitted to be retained for the temple Shrine Hospital Patient Transportation Fund, pursuant to the Special Purpose Funds provisions of any General Order. Provided, however, if the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees determine for good cause shown, that the law of the land requires that a portion of the net proceeds must be distributed locally, then they may, if they determine it to be in the best interest of Shriners Hospitals for Children, grant their written permission for such distribution. The remaining net proceeds from charitable fundraising must be given to Shriners Hospitals for Children and may not be designated or restricted in any way other than for research at one or all of our hospitals.

(d) The temple shall report the result of each charitable fundraising activity within sixty days of the activity, pursuant to the Charitable Fundraising—Approval And Reporting provisions of any General Order.

(e) This section shall not apply to activities

exempt under §335.4(b) of the bylaws of Shriners International.

(f) Each independent corporation or entity that receives the permission of the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees to raise moneys for Shriners Hospitals for Children, and which does not have its financial statements reviewed pursuant to §§334.6 & 337.8 of the bylaws of Shriners International, shall have its financial statements audited by a certified, chartered or licensed public accountant and shall submit such audit report to Shriners International within 120 days of the activity.

3. Statement of Purpose and Disclosure:

(a) Every fundraising activity must contain factual information on its solicitation material, tickets, programs and documents, including all electronically transmitted material, regarding the use of the proceeds.

Examples: "Proceeds are for the benefit of (Shriners) (Shrine club) activities." "Proceeds are for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children."

(b) Every fundraising activity which is not entirely for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children shall prominently state on all solicitation material, including tickets, programs, documents and electronically transmitted material, that "payments are not deductible as charitable contributions."

(c) There must be compliance with the Revenue Act of 1987 provision of any general order by U.S. temples.

4. Compliance with Applicable Laws:

It is the responsibility of the temple Potentate, after receiving the advice of the temple attorney, to determine that there is compliance with all applicable laws in its jurisdiction for the temple's fundraising activities.

5. Financial Records:

(a) The temple shall maintain detailed financial records pertaining to all fundraising activities involving Nobles, clubs, units, organizations of Nobles and affiliated and appendant corporations. Details of all revenues and expenditures shall be maintained in such financial records.

(b) The temple must retain such detailed financial records for a period of seven (7) years.

(c) There must be compliance with Financial Reporting on Charitable Funds and Activities provision of any General Order.

6. Notification to Nobility:

A copy of the Fundraising Activities provisions of this General Order shall be printed in the temple publication at least once every calendar year. If there is no temple publication, then a copy shall be sent to each Noble in the temple not later than the last day in March of each calendar year.

7. Prior Permission:

Every Noble (in his capacity as a Shriner), club, unit, temple, organization of Nobles or affiliated or appendant corporations is prohibited from entering into any telemarketing agreement or contract to raise money for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children without first obtaining written permission from the chairmen of the boards of directors and trustees. This request for written permission shall be sent to the Chief Philanthropy Officer, Shriners Hospitals for Children, at events@shrinernet.org.

8. Discipline:

Any officer, Noble or temple which violates a provision of Fundraising Activities is subject to discipline pursuant to the bylaws of Shriners International.

9. Shriners International Education Foundation:

Notwithstanding the previous provisions of FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES stated above, Nobles may contribute, encourage other Nobles to contribute and engage in charitable fundraising activities directly to Nobles and their families for the benefit of the Shriners International Education Foundation.



OASIS SHRINERS



PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

To: The Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Nobles of Oasis Shriner,
Situated in the City of Charlotte, State of North Carolina:

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____
Lodge, No. _____, located at _____, _____, _____,
which is a _____ (City) _____ (State)

Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months as required by the bylaws of Shriners International. I hereby make application to become a Noble of the Order and a member of your Temple. If granted membership, I promise to conform to the articles of incorporation and bylaws of Shriners International and the Bylaws and ceremonies of your Temple.

Have you previously applied for admission to any Shrine Temple or Chapter of the Order? Yes No

If so, Where? _____ When? _____

Were you ever a DeMolay? Yes No

YOUR FULL NAME: _____ Preferred Nickname: _____

Spouse's Name _____ Spouse Email (opt.) _____ Spouse Cell (opt.) _____

Birthplace: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Profession/Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Have served in the Armed Forces: Yes No Branch: _____ Your Hat Size: _____

Residence: _____
Number & Street _____ City/Town _____ State _____ Zipcode _____ COUNTY _____

Mailing Address: _____
Number & Street _____ City/Town _____ State _____ Zipcode _____ COUNTY _____

Telephone: _____
(Home) _____ (Business) _____ (Cell) _____

Email: _____ I wish to join at Spring Ceremonial Fall Ceremonial One-Day at _____

Date of this Petition: _____ Your Signature: _____

This candidate recommended and vouched for on the honor of:

Noble _____ Shrine # _____ Club/Unit _____

Noble _____ Shrine # _____ Club/Unit _____

Attach to the petition, a check or money order for \$325 and a copy of your current Blue Lodge Card. Call if you have questions. This payment includes current year's dues, your Oasis Fez and lapel pin. Mail to OASIS SHRINERS, 604 Doug Mayes Place, Charlotte, NC 28262, ATTN: Membership. You may also pay by phone by calling OASIS at 704-549-9600.

FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT: Card Type: MasterCard / Visa / Discover

CARD # _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ CSV# _____

Rev. 12.24

Memorials

DONOR

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF:
Eunice Brown Robbins	Donald G. Robbins
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Gaston County Shrine Club	Houston Donald Tolbert, Jr.
Jerry & Vickie Abernathy	Joe Ham
A. Watts Huckabee & Co	Joseph Franklin Ham, Jr.
Galen & Rachel Cassada	Joe Ham
Richard & Gerda Pait	Lewis Coward
James & Deborah Burgess	Joseph Ham
Marsha K Wright	Joe Ham, Jr.
Paul & Lindy Sprinkle	Joe Ham
Jean Stafford	Raymond Stafford
Ned & Linda Cline	Edward "Max" Kelly
Clown Ladies Auxiliay	Ron Bach
Judy Valentine	Ron Valentine
Buddy & Pat Stephenson	Ron Valentine
Robert & Patricia Hatley	Ron Wise
Robert & Patricia Hatley	Wayne Malone

Honors

DONOR

DONOR	IN HONOR OF:
Hoy & Barbara Richards	Richards Family
Monie Bean	Ronnie & Karen Williamson
Wes & Patsy McIntyre	Connor Lipps

CLUBS AND UNITS:

Want to update your Bulletin Board ad for the new year? SEND US YOUR CHANGES!

Keep text simple so your ad is easy to read. No detailed images, group photos, or low quality/blurry images will be accepted.

If submitting your own ad, make sure your file is high-resolution, with all text and images clear and high-quality.
Ad size is 2.5" wide x 1.2" high.

**Email your ad or ad changes to
DesertDust@oasisshriners.org**

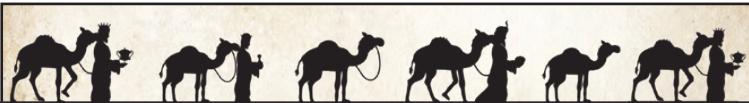
Donations

CLUB AND UNIT DONATIONS:

Highlanders Band	Cabarrus Shrine Club
Gaston County Shrine Club	Oasis Shrine Wagoneer Unit
Lincoln County Shrine Club	Moore County Shrine
Oasis Shrine Band	Rowan Shrine Club
Oasis KartAttacks	Randolph Shrine Club
Catawba County Shrine Club	Sandhill Shrine Club
Oasis Oriental Band	

OTHER DONORS:

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Michael & Rianne Bell	Barry O. Dotson
Chranson & Lonna Beam	William A. Sides
Tom Davis	Edward & Patricia Pope
Mount Olive Baptist Church	Kenneth Steen
James M. Frazier	Jerry W. Hammer
Theodore P. Titus	Gordon & Daisy Hensley
Eddie W. Bridges	
William & Sandra Dennis	



Passed Within the Unseen Temple

NAME	CITY, STATE	CREATED	DIED
Jerry Douglas Troutman	Murrells Inlet, SC	11/4/2000	12/6/2025
Houston Donald Tolbert	Gastonia, NC	11/11/1978	11/21/2025
Sheldon Singer	Boca Raton, Fl	6/8/2002	10/28/2025
Lawrence D. Warlick	Lincolnton, NC	5/2/1970	12/27/2025
Jesse Blade Self	Robbinsville, NC	6/7/2025	1/8/2026
Joseph F. Ham	Stanley, NC	10/26/1968	12/13/2025

Club and Unit Bulletin Board

ASHE SHRINE CLUB

Meeting the 3rd Monday of every month

Contact Noble Shannon Worley 336-877-6629
or Noble Mike Neaves 336-977-9122

Latona Temple # 154 Daughters of the Nile



Contact Betty Parker, PQ at
(704) 654-7108 or betty0340@bellsouth.net
www.daughtersofthenile.com

HENDERSONVILLE SHRINE CLUB

Join Us 2nd Mondays

Social 5:30 | Dinner 6:15 | Meeting 7:00

HendersonvilleShriners@gmail.com | 828-280-4909
Mike's Pizza & Pasta, 803 Spartanburg Hwy, Hendersonville, NC

Metrolina Shrine Club



5930 Brookshire Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28216
704-393-5881

President: George Clinton | 980-250-9134
Vice President: Dean Benson | 980-722-9453
Secretary: John Tilly | 704-941-7982

Cabarrus Shrine Club

Nobles, Ladies and Guests Welcome!

1460 Oakwood Ave, Kannapolis NC
704-933-2797 cabarrushrineclub@gmail.com
www.cabarrushrineclub.org

Like us on Facebook: Cabarrus Shrine Club

CAROLINA DRIFTERS



Captain Paul Lawing
704-244-0014
paullawing82@gmail.com

Latona Temple # 154 Daughters of the Nile



Contact Betty Parker, PQ at
(704) 654-7108 or betty0340@bellsouth.net
www.daughtersofthenile.com

Gaston County Shrine Club

505 Pinkney Road Dallas, NC 28034

 Meets 2nd Wed of each month
Social @ 6pm | Meeting @ 7pm

CONTACT INFO FOR RENTALS: 704-215-7172
www.gastoncountyshrineclub.com

GREENSBORO SHRINE CLUB

5010 HIGH POINT ROAD, GREENSBORO, NC 27407

4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH FAMILY NIGHT

DINNER RESERVATIONS: 336-587-5720

CLUB RENTALS: 336-209-3230

HENDERSONVILLE SHRINE CLUB

Join Us 2nd Mondays

Social 5:30 | Dinner 6:15 | Meeting 7:00

HendersonvilleShriners@gmail.com | 828-280-4909
Mike's Pizza & Pasta, 803 Spartanburg Hwy, Hendersonville, NC

High Point Shrine Club

 
Fun, Food and Fellowship.

Join us every 4th Thursday of the month. Social 6:15 | Dinner 7:00
700 Old Mill Rd, High Point, NC 27265
336-880-5586 | hpshrineclub@gmail.com

MECKLENBURG SHRINE CLUB

INVITES YOU TO VISIT OUR CLUB



CONTACT SAM MOODY
sambo447@aol.com
980-722-7951

Metrolina Shrine Club



5930 Brookshire Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28216
704-393-5881

President: George Clinton | 980-250-9134
Vice President: Dean Benson | 980-722-9453
Secretary: John Tilly | 704-941-7982

MOORE COUNTY SHRINE CLUB & The Sand "T" Parade Unit



President John Dunbar
910-544-7624

"Like" Moore County on Facebook to see many photos!

Mt. MITCHELL SHRINE CLUB

Contact: Noble Secretary
Mike Pritchard
828-442-9170



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Jarrett Jr**



ejarrett64@gmail.com 336-669-4782

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plaaaut@triad.twcbc.com

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Contact President Brian Clay
(brianclay@windstream.net)
or Secretary Scottie Cox
(scottcox67@aol.com)



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**Captain
Casey
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(704) 718-7782 caseyham88@gmail.com

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www.oasisduncats.com

Oasis Gator Patrol

Captain Jimmy Cline

2156 Sterling Ridge Dr.
Newton, NC 28658

(828) 409-1995
jimcline.jc@gmail.com

OASIS HIGHLANDERS



PIPES & DRUMS
Contact Jim Davis
cell (704) 309-1215
fyrbagpyper@gmail.com

The Hillbillies are lookin' fer ya!

If interested in joining, please contact
Jack Devine @ 828-464-9886
or Gary Patterson @ 704-938-3930

Club and Unit Bulletin Board

Oasis
Kart Attacks
Fueled by adrenaline,
Driven to help children
Oasis.KartAttacks@gmail.com

Oasis Oldies
CAPTAIN DAVID STEELMAN
336-909-1830 Bcimagedr@gmail.com

OASIS ORIENTAL BAND

CONTACT CHIP BURCH
AT 336-430-5779
FOR MORE INFORMATION

OASIS PAST MASTERS UNIT

Are you a Past Master?
We are your unit. Join Us.
Noble Matt Peeler, Captain
(704) 279-9154 | peelerm@windstream.com

OASIS PATROL
MARCHING FOR A PURPOSE

Contact Captain Paul Southworth
at 704-577-9845 or
southworth.paul@yahoo.com to
join the oldest unit of Oasis Shriners

JOIN THE OASIS PICKERS TODAY!!!

We NEED Pickers of Acoustic Instruments for our JAMMING UNIT!
DBMahan@gmail.com 843-372-5510

OASIS RAGTOPS
Riding around with the Top Down...
Raising money for Shriners Hospitals for Children
Captain David Faircloth: 704-579-2520

OASIS SHRINE CLOWNS

Accepting New Members
No Experience Necessary
Contact Thomas Livingston
336-452-4600

OASIS SHRINE WAGONEERS

For info, contact:
Freddie Dellinger,
980-522-6226

OASIS SHRINERS CAMPING CLUB

FUN – FOOD – FELLOWSHIP • COME JOIN US!
Chip Rollins 704-718-8514
chiprollins@gmail.com

THE OASIS TEMPLE BAND

Did you play in a high school band or college band? IF SO WE NEED YOU!

Captain - Noble Chuck Reed 847-502-0872

OASIS YOUNG SHRINERS CLUB

Allen Rea, President allenrea5@yahoo.com
Chase Trites, Vice President ctrites@radcoroofing.com
Brandon Burton, Secretary bkburton87@gmail.com
If you are under 40 and interested in joining, reach out to any of our officers.

PAST CAPTAINS CLUB

Meeting 3rd Monday at 6pm
Big Daddy's in Mooresville
Noble Peter Schuetz
PC, President - 704-543-0695

PIEDMONT PISTONS
Shelby, North Carolina

CAPTAIN BRIAN MELLON
(704) 692-8576

Piedmont Shrine Club

MEETING: Fourth Thursday of each month at 7pm at Fisherman's Feast, Shelby N.C.

Contact Kevin Pruitt, 704-473-3070 or kwpruitt77@gmail.com

Red Fez Shrine Club

16600 Red Fez Club Road, Charlotte NC 28278
Events Manager: TracyLee "Sabrina" Cullen (980) 875-1257 clubmanager@redfezshrineclub.com
Call us for your next wedding or event rental

THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

All Scottish Rite Masons are invited to attend our monthly meeting!
Junaluskee Lodge #145
50 Church Street, Franklin, NC 28734
3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 PM
www.ncritecare.org

Shriners on Bikes

STEPHEN TRITES
STRITES@ROCKETMAIL.COM
803-610-7876

Union County Shrine Club

P.O. Box 324 Monroe, NC 28111

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Fairview Masonic Lodge #339 in Kings Mountain.
Pres. - Chandler Champion
VP - Charles Bullock
Email: WhitePlainsShrineClub@gmail.com

WINSTON-SALEM SHRINE CLUB

Meeting: First Thursday of Each Month at 7:30pm
4909 Hampton Road, Clemmons, NC 27012 • 336.955.1375
Danny Wingo, President (336) 403-2047
Rodney Bennett, Secretary (610) 805-3482

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